

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR RH UK

SUBJECT: RHODESIA CONFERENCE: MUZOREWA'S LETTER TO RICHARD

FROM REINHARDT

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM BISHOP MUZOREWA TO
CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN RICHARD WHICH BISHOP'S DELEGATION
RELEASED TO THE PRESS AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 17 AND
IN WHICH MUZOREWA CONTINUES HIS SNIPING AT THE
PATRIOTIC FRONT.

BEGIN TEXT

NOVEMBER 17, 1976

MR. IVOR RICHARD

CHAIRMAN OF THE RHODESIA CONFERENCE
GENEVA

MR. CHAIRMAN:

MY DELEGATION, THE AFRICAN NATION COUNCIL OF ZIMBABWE, WISHES
TO SET THE RECORDS OF THIS CONFERENCE STRAIGHT.

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1. ON 16 NOVEMBER, 1976 THE "PATRIOTIC FRONT" IN THEIR

SUBMISSION TO THE PLENARY SESSION OF THAT DATE, IMPLIED THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING MY DELEGATION, HAD BEEN GIVEN AN ADVANCE COPY OF THE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT PRESENTED TO THE FOURTH PLENARY MEETING ON 15 NOVEMBER, 1976.

2. I WISH IT PALCED ON RECORD THAT MY DELEGATION WAS NOT GIVEN AN ADVANCE COPY OF THE DOCUMENT. A COLLATERAL IMPLICATION IS THAT MY DELEGATION IS NEGOTIATING "UNDER THE TABLE" WITH THE CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN. I WISH TO REJECT THIS UNTRUE IMPLICATION IN THE STRONGEST TERMS. WE FEEL INSULTED THAT OUR INTEGRITY IS BEING QUESTIONED AND OUR GOOD NAME SACRIFICED AT THE ALTAR OF CHEAP POWER POLITICS.

3. MY DELEGATION HAD THE SAME INFORMATION FROM THE BRITISH DELEGATION AS THAT GIVEN TO ALL OTHER DELEGATIONS; THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH WE REJECTED IN OUR STATEMENT.

4. THE DOCUMENT ON"CHARIMAN'S NOTES" WAS ONLY GIVEN TO US AFTER WE HAD INDICATED IN THE PLENARY SESSION OUR WILLINGNESS TO GO TO THE NEXT MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE, THE KEY ISSUE, SETTING UP THE STRUCTURE OF THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT.

5. IT IS MY DELEGATION, IN FACT, WHICH IS ONE OF THOSE RECEIVING THE LEAST ATTENTION FROM THE CHAIRMAN. MOST OF THE TIME ALLOCATED TO ZIMBABWEANS IS BEING SPENT WITH THOSE WHO ARE NOW MAKING THE LOUDEST COMPLAINTS BASED ON FALSEHOODS. WE HAVE HAD TWO PLENARY SESSIONS POSTPONED OR DRAWN OUT BECAUSE OF OUR OWN BROTHERS OF THOSE DELEGATIONS.

6. I WISH TO STRESS THAT MY DELEGATION IS MADE UP OF MEN AND WOMEN OF HIGH INTEGRITY. THEY HAVE AND WILL CONTINUE TO RESPECT THE INTEGRITY OF OTHER DELEGATIONS AND EXPECT THIS TO BE RECIPROCATED.

7. MY DELEGATION FEELS VERY STRONGLY THAT THEY ARE HERE TO DEAL WITH AN EMERGENCY AND DEAL WITH IT URGENTLY. WE DO NOT WISH TO BE DRAWN IN ANY WAY INTO CHEAP, PUPROSELESS UNCLASSIFIED

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BICKERING WITH ANY OF OUR OWN BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF ZIMBABWE.

FINALLY, THE UNDERSTANDING OF MY DELEGATION IS THAT THERE ARE 5 DELEGATIONS PLUS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DELEGATION AT THIS CONFERENCE. OUR FURTHER UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE FREE TO CONTACT EACH OTHER. IT WILL BE REGRETTABLE IF ULTERIOR MOTIVES ARE PLACED BEHIND SUCH CONTACTS. OUR

DELEGATION HAS ALREADY BEEN IMPLICATED AND WE DEPLORE THIS.

I REQUEST THAT THIS SUBMISSION BE NOTED AND THE RECORDS PUT
IN AN UNQUESTIONABLE POSITION.

A.T. MUZOREWA
PRESIDENT, AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL - ZIMBABWE END TEXT.ABRAMS

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